CUT-OFF SAW

Potential Hazards

1. cuts/lacerations/amputations
2. eye injury / flying objects
3. electrocution
4. respiratory illness
5. repetitive strain injury
6. noise (hearing loss)

Personal Protective Equipment Required

Hard hat	CSA Boots	Eye protection
Hand protection	Hearing protection	Skin protection
	Face protection	(clothing)

PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

Where multiple trade activity is scheduled, the general contractor is to review in advance the priority of work and schedule the appropriate time frame to allow each trade to complete their scope of work. Prior to any work commencing supervisors must conduct a hazard assessment of all applicable work areas. Any hazards that are found during the hazard assessment must be addressed prior to any work commencing.

DO'S:

1. Wear eye protection.
2. Position your cut-off saw on a level, sturdy work surface or cut-off saw stand.
3. Clamp or bolt the saw in place to give it added stability.
4. Set up any side braces you may need to hold heavy materials in the correct position to be cut with the cut-off saw.
5. Arrange the saw so that the power cord will reach the wall socket, or use an approved power strip with a circuit breaker to avoid overheating extension cords.
6. Install the proper blade for the material being cut.
7. Wear hearing and eye protection at all times when operating your cut-off saw.
8. Clear all sawdust and other flammable materials away from the saw area when cutting metal to avoid sparks lighting the dust on fire.
9. Measure and mark your pieces carefully.
10. Set your piece on the saw table, firmly against the fence at the back and the table on the bottom.
11. Position the piece to be cut so that the piece you wish to keep is on the left side of the saw if you are right handed and the right side of the saw if you are left handed.
12. Line the edge of the blade with the outside of the mark on your material.
13. Hold the material with your non-dominant hand clear of the blade area.
14. Double check that all materials are lined up with the blade and all foreign matter is clear of the blade.
15. Pull the trigger and allow the blade to come to speed before putting it in contact with the material.
16. Pull the blade down and apply steady pressure to make the cut in one movement.
17. Allow the blade to come to a complete stop before letting the blade back up.

DON'Ts:

1. Do not force the retracting lower guard in the open position.
2. Do not force the blade.
3. Do not place hand under guard of the saw.
4. Do not force the saw during cutting.
5. Do not cut materials without first checking for obstructions or other objects such as nails, etc.
6. Do not carry the saw with a finger on the trigger switch.
7. Do not overreach-keep proper footing and balance.
8. Do not twist the saw to change, cut or check alignment.
9. Do not use a saw that vibrates or appears unsafe.

SAFE WORK PROCEDURE

WORK AREA

1. Keep your work area clean and well lit. Cluttered benches and dark areas invite accidents.
2. Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust. Power tools create sparks which may ignite the dust or fumes.

3. Keep bystanders, children, and visitors away while operating a power tool. Distractions can cause you to lose control.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

1. Double Insulated tools are equipped with a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other.) This plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install a polarized outlet. Do not change the plug in any way. Double insulation eliminates the need for the three wire grounded power cord and grounded power supply system.
2. Avoid body contact with grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators. There is an increased risk of electric shock if your body is grounded.
3. Do not expose power tools to rain or wet conditions. Water entering a power tool will increase the risk of electric shock.
4. Do not abuse the cord. Never use the cord to carry the tools or pull the plug from an outlet. Keep cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges or moving parts. Replace damaged cords immediately. Damaged cords increase the risk of electric shock.
5. When operating a power tool outside, use an outdoor extension cord marked "W-A" or "W". These cords are rated for outdoor use and reduce the risk of electric shock.

PERSONAL SAFETY

1. Stay alert, watch what you are doing and use common sense when operating a power tool. Do not use tool while tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication. A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.
2. Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Contain long hair. Keep your hair, clothing, and gloves away from moving parts. Loose clothes, jewelry or long hair can be caught in moving parts.
3. Your finger on the switch or plugging in tools that have the switch on invites accidents.
4. Remove adjusting keys or wrenches before turning the tool on. A wrench or a key that is left attached to a rotating part of the tool may result in personal injury.
5. Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. Proper footing and balance enables better control of the tool in unexpected situations.
6. Use safety equipment. Always wear eye protection. Dust mask, nonskid safety shoes, hard hat, or hearing protection must be used for appropriate conditions.

TOOL CARE AND USE

1. Use clamps or other practical way to secure and support the work piece to a stable platform. Holding the work by hand or against your body is unstable and may lead to loss of control.
2. Do not force tool. Use the correct tool for your application. The correct tool will do the job better and safer at the rate for which it is designed.
3. Do not use tool if switch does not turn it on or off. Any tool that cannot be controlled with the switch is dangerous and must be repaired.
4. Disconnect the plug from the power source before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing the tool. Such preventive safety measures reduce the risk of starting the tool accidentally.
5. Store idle tools out of reach of children and other untrained persons. Tools are dangerous in the hands of untrained users.
6. Maintain tools with care. Keep cutting tools sharp and clean. Properly maintained tools, with sharp cutting edges are less likely to bind and are easier to control.
7. Check for misalignment or binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, and any other condition that may affect the tools operation. If damaged, have the tool serviced before using. Many accidents are caused by poorly maintained tools.
8. Use only accessories that are recommended by the manufacturer for your model. Accessories that may be suitable for one tool, may become hazardous when used on another tool.

SAFE USE OF CUT-OFF SAW

1. General operation precautions:
   - Keep work areas clean. Cluttered areas and benches invite injuries.
   - Consider work area environment. Do not expose power tools to rain. Don't use power tools in damp or wet locations. Keep work area well lit. Do not use tool in presence of flammable liquids or gasses.

- Guard against electric shock. Prevent body contact with grounded surfaces.
- Keep children away. Do not let visitors contact tool or extension cord. All visitors should be kept away from work area.
- Store idle tools. When not in use, tools should be stored in dry and high or locked containers.
- Don't force the tool.
- Use the right tool for the job. Do not use small tools or attachments for work which requires a heavy duty tool.
- Dress properly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry.
- Use safety glasses when operating the tool.
- Don't abuse the power cord. Never carry or lift the tool by the power cord.
- Don't overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times while operating the tool.
- Proper maintenance of tools is mandatory. Clean the tool at the end of each day and inspect regularly to ensure that there are no signs of damage.
- Disconnect the tool when not in use, before cleaning and when changing blades, bits or cutters.
- Remove adjusting keys or wrenches before operating the tool.
- Ensure that you have a good grip on the tool to avoid unintentional starting.
- Use the appropriate extension cord for the scope of work you are completing as well as the location you are working in.
- Stay alert. Be aware of your surroundings and other personnel that are in the area.
- Don't use tools for applications they were not designed for.
- Don't use attachments that are not recommended for the tool.
- Don't touch any movable part of the tool unless the power cord is unplugged and you are certain that there is no power going to the tool.
- Operate the tool below the rated input to ensure the tool is not damaged due to overload.
- Do not wipe plastic parts of the tool with solvents

2. Use precautions include:
   - Never operate the tool without wheel guards
   - Use only cutting wheels with a "Safe Speed" at least as high as the "No-Load RPM" indicated on the power tool nameplate
3. Prior to operation

The cut-off saw can be used for the following applications: cutting sheet metal, concrete, cinder blocks, bricks, reinforcing rods, concrete wire mesh, and corrugated floor. No other applications are recommended.

- Ensure that the power source to be utilized conforms to the power requirements specified for the tool
- Ensure that the power switch is in the OFF position before plugging the tool in.
- If an extension cord is use it must be of sufficient thickness and rated capacity to ensure that tool efficiency is not diminished. Keep extension cords as short as possible.
- Ensure that the wheel guard is properly fitted and fastened before commencing any cutting operation.
- Ensure that the cutting wheel to be used is the correct type for the application. The wheel must be free of cracks or surface defects. Ensure that the cutting wheel is properly mounted and the wheel nut is securely tightened.
- Trial runs are recommended after a new wheel has been installed on the tool or before commencing routine cutting operations.

4. Cut-off saw application:
   - To prolong the life of the machine and ensure a first class finish it is important that the machine should not be overloaded by applying too much force.
   - After switching off the machine allow the cutting wheel to stop completely before setting the tool down.
   - Always place the tool down so that the cutting wheel is facing up.